



2622

K-20137-US

PATENT

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

HIROAKI ONISHI ET AL.

Serial No.: 09/786,680

Filed: March 8, 2001

For: IMAGE READING APPARATUS

Art Unit: 2622

Examiner: LEE, CHEUKFAN

#5  
K Davis  
4-29-04

## RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

RECEIVED

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

APR 22 2004

Technology Center 2600

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed on April 1, 2004, Applicants hereby provisionally elect, with traverse, Species I (the embodiment of Figures 1-5) for initial examination in the present application. Claims 1-13, 19 and 20 read on the elected species and are generic to all of species outlined in the Office Action.

However, applicants respectfully traverse the election requirement since all of species are sufficiently related that a thorough and complete search for Species I would necessarily encompass a thorough and complete search for the non-elected species. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the election requirement be withdrawn and that all species claimed herein be examined.

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Date: April 19, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

HIROAKI ONISHI ET AL.

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MDB/ggb

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